

REMARKS

Applicants hereby add new claims 21 through 25, without adding new matter. New claim 21 is similar to original claim 1, new claims 22 and 23 are similar to original claim 7, new claim 24 is similar to original claim 17 and new claim 25 is similar to original claim 14. The new claims focus on a single, local or originator or answerer gateway's role in accomplishing de/compression modem pair synchronization, in accordance with the invention.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the preliminary amendments prior to examination of the instant patent application on its merits.

The Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned if any questions arise concerning the application.

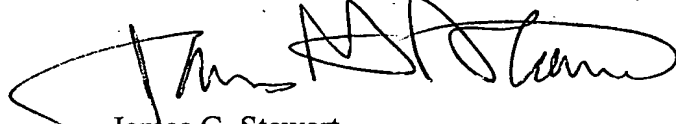


20575

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Respectfully submitted,

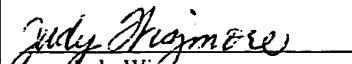
MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, PC


James G. Stewart
Reg. No. 32,496

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C
1030 S.W. Morrison Street
Portland, Oregon 97205
Telephone: (503) 222-3613
503-222-3613

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on April 25, 2001 with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Dated: April 25, 2001


Judy Wignmore

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims

1. (Amended) A method of synchronizing two de/compression modems in a voice frame network, each of the modems [each] being connected with a corresponding gateway to form a corresponding segment, the method comprising:

terminating the physical layer at either end by the corresponding gateways;

negotiating at either gateway a physical layer and error-correcting data link layer with the corresponding modem;

sending from either gateway to an associated modem in response to any poll command therefrom a not-ready message;

signaling the other gateway when physical layer and error-correcting data link layer negotiations have been completed; and

when each gateway has signaled the other that negotiations have been completed, halting said not-ready message-sending and sending a ready message to a corresponding modem, whereby synchronized data transmissions between the modems commences.

21. New added claim.

22. New added claim.

23. New added claim.

24. New added claim.

25. New added claim.